NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

No. 2 October 15, 1956 26 Shanley Ave.
Published by the Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council, Newark, N.J.

ALL OUT TO SEE "OUR LIVING FUTURE"

AREA'S RECREATION FACILITY NEEDS CITED BEFORE BOARD OF ED BY COUNCIL SPOKESMEN

The Clinton Hill Area's need for recreation facilities was cited before the Newark Board of Education on Sept. 25th, by Tim O'Brien, who spoke for the Council. This came as a carry-through of summer activities by the CHNC in the effort to get needed facilities. Rev. Frank Weiler had addressed the previous meeting of the Board.

In his remarks Mr. O'Brien pointed out there was no need to deny tensions and listed reasons for their existence. He pointed out that Clinton Hill is the only major section without a pool, park or other outdoor play facilities. O'Brien gave a word picture of a "cement jungle where our youth have no place to play but must divert their energies at times to destructive vandalism." He further stated, "Youth cannot develop to full stature, understand his neighbors' problems or become responsible citizens when they are confined to sidewalks and front steps in their leisure hours. Because of this they are regarded as a public menace by neighbors and landlords."

Speaking of the cost to the city government, O'Brien pointed to increased and frenzied police activity after the fatal shooting of a 14 year-old boy in the vicinity of Badger and Avon Avenues.

After Mr. O'Brien concluded his graphic account of our Clinton Hill needs, the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Kennelly, praised the Council for its work and interest in the welfare of all of Clinton Hill residents.

Rev. Franklin Weiler had told the Board of Ed at its August meeting of the widespread concern about the recreational needs of our area as indicated at the "Good Neighbor" conference---and block meetings. Recommendations were forwarded to Dr. Kennelly for study and action.

ACTION PRODUCTION
ESSEX HOUSE
MONDAY, OCT 22nd

"Our Living Future" is the title of an ACTION presentation to be viewed by Newarkers Monday, Oct.22, 8:00 P.M. at the Essex House. There are still a few tickets available through the Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council at $1.00 each.

This film presentation is of unusual interest to residents of Clinton Hill who have been working in this neighborhood to improve facilities and develop the kind of community spirit that is required for wholesome living.

Area Premiere

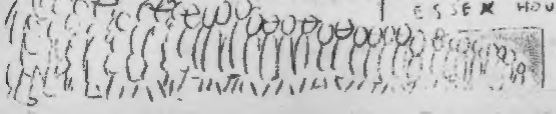
Newark is one of ninety cities in which the presentation will be offered, and the first in this area. The show is part of the program of ACTION (American Council To Improve Our Neighborhoods), a national non-profit, non-partisan, organization helping communities help themselves toward making America more liveable. This presentation is designed to help us by supplying the facts of experience to show what has and can be done by individuals and groups to improve their homes and communities.

LIFE Magazine Production

"Our Living Future" has been produced as a public service by LIFE Magazine. Narrated by David Keith Hardy, it is a 1-½ hour color illustrated presentation on a vista vision panoramic motion picture screen. It dramatizes the need for action and shows activity already in progress to implement the Three R's for America's cities. ---Replan, Renew, Rebuild.

For your ticket---
Call---Bi 3-3278 or Bi 2-0825

Don't wait a single minute---
Pick up the phone and call right now!!!



NEW BLOCK ASSOCIATIONS FORMED AS NEIGHBORS UNITE TO DISCUSS AND MEET NEEDS OF THEIR STREET

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FARLEY AVENUE ASSOCIATION REPORTS

As a direct outcome of the Spring Conference of the Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council (when several of us traveled clear to South Side to meet for the first time) the Farley Avenue Association was formed. Since then, we feel that we have made important progress in furthering the objectives of the Council. At informal meetings in members' homes, virtually all problems relating to our street and neighborhood have been discussed with utmost frankness. These discussions have fused strong bonds of friendship and understanding as individuals have discovered (often for the first time) the identical nature of their common concerns.

Associations' Interests Grow

We as an association have taken an active interest in community activities and areas which affect us. This has included spearheading the drive for more adequate recreational facilities in Clinton Hill, supporting PTA and Scout programs, maintaining the residential character of our street, and obtaining more adequate police protection. The Association, through its membership, has made its concerns known to various city departments---and received valuable information from them.

Captain O'Rourke Visits

At one of our meetings, Capt. O'Rourke of the Fifth Precinct exchanged views with us on recreation (or rather, re-creation) juvenile delinquency, foot patrols, and the PAL program. Our meetings are oriented toward an active program to implement our objectives.

Block Social August 20th

As part of our program to foster better neighborly relations, our first social was held August 20th. Our monthly meetings combine business and sociability. They are held the first Tuesday of every month. You are all invited (but please do not all come at once!!) They are held at the home of the Jones', 47 Farley Avenue.

Formal organization took place on July 16, 1956, and the following officers were elected: -

Chairman: John E Hughes

Vice Chairman: Daniel Feldberg

Secretary: Lee Bailey

Treasure: Milton LAwson

Poor Artist's Conception of Money Bags & Purse Strings

ZONING, RECREATION, TRAFFIC STIMULATE FORMATION OF THE SEYMOUR AVENUE ASSOCIATION

The Seymour Avenue Association was formed on September 25, 1956. A major factor in this event was the coming together of residents of the block to meet a common problem---the threat to the residential character of the block by the application for a zoning variance by a supermarket wishing to commercialize the interior of the block.

A supermarket and parking lot at 534 Clinton Avenue would have resulted in lowered property values for our homes, disrupted the residential pattern of our area, and removed from availability one of the last possible sites for park and recreation in the whole Clinton Hill Area.

Neighbors Meet at Zoning Brd

Many of us met each other for the first time at the zoning board hearings in City Hall where we had come to protest against granting the variance. In our fight to prevent this, we organized, and are now staying together to bring about better understanding between ourselves.

Our present project is to make Seymour Avenue a one way street. It is extremely narrow and crowded. We are circulating petitions and have sent letters to the proper authorities, hoping that the answer will be favorable.

Our affiliation with the Neighborhood Council has been a valuable background.

Co-Chairmen of the Seymour Avenue Association are:

Mr. I. Lippman
Mr. G. Davis

Invite your friends to join you at the Essex House on Monday Evening! Get a ticket for them by calling---Bl 3-3278

or

Bl 2-0825

It will be an evening they will enjoy and won't soon forget.

PLEASE NOTE:

It is the firm intention of your editors that this newsletter should be a genuine "news" letter, and not a promotion sheet! However, we have departed to some extent from that policy in this issue with respect to the "Our Living Future" production. Several factors have motivated this departure from the normal and we trust desired policy. These factors are:

1) The time shortage---this coming Monday night is the night, and tickets must be obtained by persons in a day or two.
2) This newsletter is the only way of reaching many of you members whom we know to be interested.
3) Although more than ninety organizations are co-sponsoring the Essex House production, the primary agents of ticket distribution are the Neighborhood Councils!! (Why? Because it is being increasingly recognized through out the country that significant movements which are making our cities liveable by 20th Century standards are NEIGHBORHOOD movements.)
4) Because of the unique nature of this production (narrated "live" by David Hardy, former NBC and BBC correspondent) this Monday night will be the only Newark showing.
5) The Executive Committee of the CHNC felt that this production, combining years of research, and put together by a quarter of a million dollars by LIFE does give us a really unique opportunity.

IT CAN BE THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE ALL BEEN TOGETHER UNDER ONE ROOF

SINCE MAY 20TH AT SOUTH SIDE--------SEE YOU MONDAY NITE AT 8:00 !

SUMMER 1956 NO LET UP IN COUNCIL DRIVE FOR RECREATION FACILITIES

From virtually all of the "Tables down at South Side" came not the Whiffenpoof Song, but rather, the reports that the one almost universally felt need in our area is the need for adequate, available outdoor recreation facilities.

It is a real source of satisfaction to see Ripple field being developed (across from South Side.) This is a major step, but....

There are more than 4,200 grade school children attending the Avon Ave., Bergen St., Blessed Sacrament, and the Hebrew Academy. These are all within four blocks of each other. Yet, the total outdoor play facility is limited to two tar courts attached to two of the schools.

Further, a new Junior High is being built on Clinton Place for more than a thousand youth. And it is being built right out to the sidewalks!

The discussions at South Side, responses to questionairres,(Ed.sp) discussions in block groups, and the obvious facts of the situation have combined to provide a sizeable mandate for action.

1600 PETITION COUNCIL * ZONING BRD

The following statement was signed by more than 1600 persons, in a petition circulated by the CHNC:

"We, the undersigned residents of Newark, N.J., hereby petition the City Council and the Zoning Board of Adjustment:
1) to develop the property extending about 1,800 feet behind the frontage at 534 Clinton Avenue (formerly the Children's Home of the Jewish Child Care Association, between Seymour Avenue and Hedden Terrace), for park and recreational use, to include a swimming pool, playing fields, and a neighborhood center for youth and adult recreation purposes and adult education activities; and further

2) to go on record as opposed to any zoning variance which would permit the use of this site for business, commercial, or industrid purposes."

A large number of Council Members, and some very energetic teenagers (going door-to-door) made this petition available for residents to sign.

Mr. Hymen Mintz of Girard Place represented the Council before the Zoning Board, and presented the petitions.

1956 DAYS AND NIGHTS ALL GOLDEN FOR GOLDEN KNIGHTS

The Blessed Sacrament CYO Golden Knights have concluded a most successful season of field competition, winning 16 out of 21 contests. Most cherished victories of all were the American Legion, V.F.W. State, and and American Legion National Titles.

This latter title was won in Los Angeles at the American Legion Convention. The Knights, in two modern cruiser buses, stopped at Notre Dame, Boystown, Nebraska, Boulder Dam and other famous landmarks. It was impossible for the Knights to defend their VFW Drum and Bugle Corps national title since the trip to both (the VFW was at Dallas) would entail too much expense.

The Knights will go to Yankee Stadium on Nov. 11th to play between halves at a Giant Pro-football game. They appeared at the Waldorf Astoria for the United Nations Children's Organization.

* * *

A modest Clinton Hilltonian was overheard saying to himself, "The Knights rank first in the nation again this year? Of course, they're from Clinton Hill, aren't they?"

EDITORS' REGRETS:

We regret that we have not been able to bring you complete coverage in this newsletter. We have had to leave out notes on the outing of the Youth Council, several Exec meetings (at which attendance ran between 20 and 35 all summer), discussions with Councilmen (city), meetings of the Council and the Shanley Avenue Association at which Mayor Carlin visited, the appearances at the Zoning Board, and interest expressed in the Council by other groups--Bergen Branch Library Mother's Club--etc. Time (it is now 4:30 A.M.) and space do not permit.

If you have any of the needed skills, and can work on the staff of this newsletter, please let us know. Your help could mean better coverage, more issues, and further the kind of communication needed to knit us together into a more creative community.

WATCH THE NEXT ISSUE FOR A REPORT ON THE ASSOCIATED COMMUNITY COUNCILS

(Because there isn't space for it here.)

LOOK FOR:

The next issue of this newsletter to bring you a full rundown on the zoning ordinances as they affect our section, and the court case awaiting decision which involves all of us very significantly.

MAYOR'S COMMISSION STUDIES CITY

The Mayor's Commission on Group Relations has been authorized by Mayor Leo P. Carlin to conduct a study of tensions surrounding group relations in various areas of the city. In carrying out this study, various members of the Mayor's commission have and will visit meetings of the Exec Com and Block Associations in the Clinton Hill Area.

One of the stated purposes of the CHNC is to welcome new neighbors. Two recent arrivals are Mr. and Mrs. Walter Chambers who are now living at 84 Clinton Place. Walter has managed to overcome the handicap of a newly acquired state of married bliss sufficiently to continue his assistance to the CHNC as a staff member of the Mayor's Commission.

CALLING ALL CHNC MEMBERS!

The meetings of the executive committee of the Council are open to all members. However, it is obviously impossible to notify all members of the time and place for each meeting. If you would like to attend, please notify Mrs. Al Finn, so that an announcement will be sent to you. If you have never attended a meeting, you might find it particularly beneficial.

IS YOUR BLOCK ORGANIZED?

If not, organize it! (The officers will be glad to help.) You may obtain names of other Council members on your street by contacting Al Finn, Stan Hallett, Grace Golat, or Helen Winters. If you would like to visit a meeting of an organized block, contact us an we will help arrange it (or contact Block Association officers overleaf.)

ADVICE TO PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN
Father, get a baby-sitter and bring your wife to the Essex House Monday. If she doesn't want to come, then leave your wife at home ---and bring the Baby-Sitter!! But Come!